

PATENT APPLICATION

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 2625**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshinori ENDO

Group Art Unit: 2625

Application No.: 10/660,579

Examiner: T. LETT

Filed: September 12, 2003

Docket No.: 117143

For: NETWORK APPARATUS WITH DISCRIMINATING LOGIC (AS AMENDED)

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the March 6, 2008 Final Office Action and the June 2, 2008 Personal Interview, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks. Claims 1-13 are pending in this application.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Lett at the interview held June 2, 2008 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

Claims 1-5 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,707,566 to Endoh. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 calls for a storage section that stores the unique identification data, the unique identification data including at least a vendor ID assigned to a manufacturer of the electronic

apparatus and a product ID assigned to the electronic apparatus as model information. Claim 12 calls for similar features.

The Office Action, on page 3, states that Endoh teaches a printer identifier (ID), which reads on the vendor ID and the product ID recited in independent claims 1 and 12. However, as discussed with Examiner Lett at the personal interview, the printer identifier only distinguishes between the individual printers, much like the claimed product ID. Therefore, the printer identifier cannot be interpreted to also read on the vendor ID.

Furthermore, as agreed upon by Examiner Lett, the group address disclosed in Endoh also fails to read on the claimed vendor ID. Endoh's group address is not assigned to the manufacturer, as called for in independent claims 1 and 12, but rather the user to recognize the grouping of an assortment of printers has allocated the group address "100" or "200."

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 6-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Endoh in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,099,026 to Hren. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claims 6 recites, "input information further includes a password."

As discussed with Examiner Lett, Hren fails to disclose or suggest that the password is included in the input information that is sent to the electronic apparatus by an external device. Instead, Hren discloses that customer service representative at an external location creates the password, the password is then passed along to the customer, and the customer enters the password into the printer to receive validation to use various extra features. (*see* Hren's col. 5, line 43 to col. 6, line 9). Thus, Hren's password is not sent by an external device within input information, which also includes apparatus information and operation information (*see* Applicant's independent claims 1 and 12), to the electronic apparatus.

Claim 7 recites, "comprising a password storing section that stores a unique password."

As discussed with Examiner Lett, Hren does not include a password storing section. Hren only discloses the generation of the printer version 33 of the pass code that is compared to the customer pass code 23 for validation consideration. (*see* Hren's col. 6, lines 15-24). Thus, there is no need for Hren to include a password storing section because the printer version 33 pass code is only used once for validation purposes.

Claim 8 recites, "comprising a changing section that changes the unique password to a new unique password based on a command, the command being further included in the input information."

As discussed and agreed upon by Examiner Lett, Hren does not disclose the ability to send a command through the input information and change the unique password. Hren only generates one printer version 33 pass code based upon the printer 12 serial number 26 for a one time event. Thus, the printer version 33 pass code is not allowed to be further changed to another unique pass code by a command, as called for in dependent claim 8.

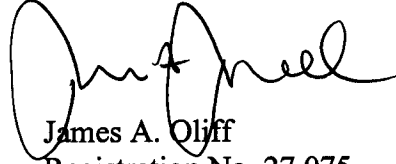
Hren fails to overcome the deficiencies Endoh as mentioned above, with respect to independent claims 1 and 12. Thus, at least in view of the patentably distinct features of independent claims 1 and 12, as well as for the additional features recited therein, the rejections of claims 6-11 and 13 should be withdrawn.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:RHR/khm

Date: June 6, 2008

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